



The Cadet Program

Briefing for Eaker Cadets

CONGRATULATIONS! You have now officially completed Phase IV and are promoted to the grade of cadet lieutenant colonel!

Goals for Eaker Cadets – Executive Leadership

Having completed Phase IV, you are expected to demonstrate executive leadership and serve as an advisor to junior cadets and senior member Cadet Program leaders. You are ready to serve as a cadet commander, or as a special cadet staff officer at higher echelons. As an executive leader, your new challenge is to think strategically, articulate a vision for your unit, and lead a staff toward the fulfillment those long-range goals. How well you develop the potential of your team, delegate, and lead by example will determine your success.

Special Opportunities

As a cadet officer, you are eligible to apply for college and flight scholarships. Watch for information in *Civil Air Patrol News* in the fall, or visit www.cap.gov and click “Cadet Programs” and “Scholarships.” Also, if you enlist in the Air Force you are eligible to enter as an airman first class (reference: AFI 36-2002, a4.1.5.5). Further, as an Earhart cadet, you may be eligible to participate in the International Air Cadet Exchange. For more details, visit www.cap.gov and click “Cadet Programs” and “IACE.”

What is the General Carl A Spaatz Award Exam?

To earn the Cadet Program’s highest honor and the coveted grade of cadet colonel, you must pass all required elements of the Gen Carl A Spaatz Award examination. The exam is a battery of four tests administered on a single day by a member of the wing CAP-USAF liaison office. They four exam elements are:

Are there any rules concerning my appearance and attitude?

You must be properly wearing a CAP uniform when you report for the exam. During the CPFT, you may wear athletic clothing. If your uniform is improperly worn or if you display a poor attitude, the CAP-USAF test proctor may refuse to administer the exam to you.

When will I receive my results?

Because the leadership and aerospace tests are administered on-line, you will be notified of your test scores immediately after completing each test. You will be told if you passed the CPFT immediately after completing that test. However, the essay exam must be sent to HQ CAP for grading. Watching the E-Services website is the quickest way learn if you passed the exam (log on at www.cap.gov). When E-Services lists your Spaatz Award, you are promoted to the grade of cadet colonel. You will receive in the mail your official exam results about 2 weeks after taking the exam.

How will the award be presented?

Award elements are sent to your wing CAP-USAF liaison office. The award should be presented by a general officer, governor, congressman, or a federal official. Of course, your preferences will be considered as your unit commander, wing commander, and state director work together to arrange a memorable awards ceremony.

Helpful Hints

- ◆◆◆ Be sure you can pass the CPFT before requesting the exam.
- ◆◆◆ Review chapter 10 of *Leadership 2000* and practice writing an argumentative essay. Have a teacher or senior member check your work. Most failures are due to poor organization and grammar.
- ◆◆◆ Allow 2-3 weeks to study for the written exams. Review one or two chapters for about an hour each day. Do not attempt to cram. Have junior cadets help you by asking questions from the quizzes and lesson objectives found throughout the texts.
- ◆◆◆ Get a full night’s sleep the evening before your exam. Bring a friend or your entire squadron to cheer you on during the CPFT.

Your Next Mission

You are already among the top 2% of all cadets in CAP, and yet there remains one more task on your journey. Any cadet capable of earning the Eaker has the potential to earn the Spaatz. It’s time to finish what you started. Go for it!

Leadership

The leadership exam is a 60-question, closed-book, multiple-choice test. You will have 60 minutes to complete this exam. Test questions are based on *Leadership 2000 Volumes 1-3*; CAPM 39-1, *CAP Uniform Manual*, CAPR 52-16, *Cadet Program Management*, chapters 1 and 2; and AFMAN 36-2203, *Drill and Ceremonies*, which is also known as the *CAP Drill and Ceremonies Manual*. The passing score is 80%.

Aerospace Education

The aerospace exam is a 60-question, closed-book, multiple-choice test. You will have 60 minutes to complete this exam. Test questions are derived from *Aerospace: The Journey of Flight*. The passing score is 80%.

Physical Fitness

The physical fitness exam is the standard cadet physical fitness test (CPFT). You will be granted sufficient time to change into athletic clothing and warm-up. See CAPP 52-18, *Cadet Physical Fitness Program* for details about the CPFT.

Moral Leadership

For the moral leadership portion of the Spaatz Award exam, you must write an essay in response to a moral issue relevant to CAP cadets. Review chapter 10 in *Leadership 2000* for guidance on how to write an argumentative essay. The essay is graded pass or fail for organization, content, and grammar (see CAPR 52-16, figure 2-7).

Frequently Asked Questions About the Exam

How do I request the exam?

Send a memo or email to your unit commander and wing commander, in turn, requesting permission to take the Spaatz Award exams. Include your full name, charter number, CAPID, home address, email address, phone number(s), date of birth, and date of your Eaker Award. Also indicate how many times you have attempted the Spaatz Award exams. If your unit and wing commander approve your request, contact your state director to schedule the exam. See CAPR 52-16, paragraph 2-10 for details.

What are the age requirements?

To earn the Spaatz Award, you must pass all required test elements before your 21st birthday. You are ineligible to test after turning 21.

Where and when and how is the test administered?

The exam will be administered at a time and place mutually agreeable to the state director and cadet. For details on how the exam is administered, see CAPP 52-13, *Spaatz Exam Test Administrator's Guide*.

May I take the exam out of state if I am a college student?

Yes. Request the exam following the usual procedures, but contact your home wing's CAP-USAF office and request permission to test out of state. If your request is approved, contact the state director who you want to administer the exam and make an appointment to test.

How many attempts are cadets allowed?

You are allowed a maximum of three attempts at the Spaatz Award exam. If fail at your first attempt, you may make a second attempt 60 days after your first attempt. If you fail your second attempt, you may make a third attempt 120 days after your second attempt. If you fail your third attempt, you will no longer be eligible to test.

How are re-tests handled?

If you fail one or more portions of the exam, you must retake those portions and pass them to earn the Spaatz Award. For the re-test, you will be administered a different version of the exam, except for the CPFT which does not change. You do not need to retake portions of the exam that you passed during a previous attempt. To request a re-test, follow the same procedures you used for your first attempt.

What if I can't perform the CPFT?

If you have been classified a physical fitness Category I cadet for the majority of your cadet membership, you should have little difficulty with the CPFT as the standards are only slightly higher than achievement 16's requirements. Cadets in Category II are not eligible to test until they return to Category I or are determined by a physician to have a medical condition or injury of a permanent nature. Waivers will not be granted. Category III cadets are exempt from a portion of the CPFT. Category IV cadets are exempt from the entire CPFT. For details about the physical fitness categories, see CAPR 52-16, paragraph 1-7.